

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUDAPE 01771 110907Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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P 110853Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3422

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 1771

EXDIS

FOR COUNSELOR SONNENFELDT AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, HU

SUBJECT: CLOSED AREA RESTRICTIONS

REF: BUDAPEST 1658

1. AT CONCLUSION JUNE 10 CONVERSATION WITH MCAULIFFE ABOUT HUNGARIAN PAYMENT ON CLAIMS AGREEMENT, VARKONYI SAID FONOFF TRUSTS THAT U.S. FROM ITS SIDE WILL ALSO SHOW WILLINGENSS MOVE TOWARD NORMALIZATION, E.G. RECIPROCAL REMOVAL OF CLOSED AREA RESTRICTIONS.

2. MCAULIFFE SAID HE KNEW DEPFONMIN NAGY HAD BROACHED THIS THEME WITH FORMER AMBASSADOR PEDERSEN IN MARCH 1974 AND NOVEMBER 1974. HIS OWN BRIEF EXPERIENCE IN HUNGARY LED HIM TO BELIEVE THAT LOCAL RESTRICTIONS INTERFERE IN NO WAY WITH NORMAL FUNCTIONING OF AMERICAN EMBASSY BUDAPEST. HE INQUIRED WHETHER U.S. RESTRICTIONS HAMPER ACTIVITIES OF AMBASSADOR ESZTERGALYOS AND HIS STAFF. VARKONYI SAID THAT IN ACTUALITY ESZTERGALYOS AND STAFF HUNGARIAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON FIND CLOSED AREAS NO IMPEDIMENT TO THEIR FUNCTIONS. HOWEVER, GOH IN ITS PURSUIT OF DETENTE WISHES MOST EARNESTLY TO DO AWAY WITH ARTIFICIAL BARRIERS CREATED DURING COLD WAR. MCAULIFFE ASKED WHETHER GOH HAD REACHED FIRM DECISION AT GOVERNMENTAL LEVEL. WHEN VARKONYI ASSENTED, MCAULIFFE ASKED WHETHER GOH READY TO LIFT ALL RESTRICTIONS WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT
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IF U.S. PREPARED TO DO LIKEWISE. VARKONYI SAID HE WAS NOT

CERTAIN ON TIMING.

3. COMMENT: IT WOULD BE NICE TO EMPLOY SCENARIO PROPOSED
PARA 3 BUDAPEST 1658 ON DEPFONMIN JANOS NAGY AT AN EARLY DATE.
MCAULIFFE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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